

AI - V - A - 014
Graham's Mansion
Wright's Crossing

1871

In 1871 the Graham Mansion was constructed as a residence for the successful farmer Mr. Curtin M. Graham. The house is a Victorian Revival brick structure that is laid in American Common Bond, and supported by a high stone foundation. The roof is gabled, with a front and rear cross gable dormer and is shingled by the original slate materials. The main facade is two and one half stories long and six bays wide exhibiting twin entrances with hoods supported by wooden columns. Other appointments of the house include six-over-six light windows, gothic sash windows in the gable ends and brackets supporting the side soffit.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Graham Mansion (preferred)

and/or common Layman Farm, Prichard Farm

2. Location

street & number One half mile east of old Rt. 36 from inter- ☐ not for publication

section in Wright's Crossing

city, town Frostburg ☒ vicinity of congressional district sixth

state MD county Allegany

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Prichard Realty Co., Bob and Bill Prichard

street & number 7 West College Ave., 9 West College Ave. telephone no.: 689-6939
689-6246

city, town Frostburg state and zip code MD 21532

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse liber 361

street & number 30 Washington Street folio 225

city, town Cumberland state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

e

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. 12-V-A-04

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Graham Mansion is located approximately 1/2 mile east of Route 836 and 1/4 mile north of the intersection of U.S. Route 48 and Route 36 on the southeast edge of Frostburg. The historic approach to the house is via a dirt lane leading up from Wright's Crossing on Route 836.

The Graham Mansion is sited on the side of a steep hill or ridge along the east side of Route 836 and is oriented on an east-west axis, perpendicular to the hillside. The mansion is rectangular in form, with the principal facade facing south along the ridge. It is 1½ stories high on a full cellar, six bays long and two rooms deep, with a pitched gable roof oriented on the east-west axis. This large brick house was constructed in 1870-71 and incorporates two smaller brick wings, which appear to date to as many as three distinct stages of construction.

The principal facade of the main house faces south. It is six bays wide, with the principal entrance located in the east bay of the first floor and a second entrance in the second bay from the west. The four remaining first floor openings are fitted with 6/6 windows; there are six 6/6 windows ranged across the second story. A large cross gable is centered on the middle four bays of this facade, with paired segmentally arched 4/4 windows in the center. A large cellar entrance is located at the west end of this facade; three small window openings pierce the foundation. The stone foundation has been rendered with stucco and scribed with imitation joints. The brick facade is laid in six-course common bond with splayed brick jack arches above the openings. The entire house was at one time painted red with stenciled mortar joints, as indicated by traces of this finish where the walls have been protected by the two front porches and a demolished rear porch. The principal door in the east bay is framed with sidelights and transom and is protected by a handsome one story hip-roofed entrance porch with elaborate Victorian supports, balustrade and bracketed cornice. A stone mounting block for carriages is located directly in front of this porch. The secondary door to the west has a transom but no sidelights and is protected by a similar but slightly smaller entrance porch. This porch has a flight of granite steps and a handsome original iron rail. The roof of the house is covered with diamond pattern asbestos tiles and is surmounted by five decorative Victorian chimneys. The eaves oversail and are boxed in with a bold crownmold applied to the fascia and scrolled brackets below the soffit applied against a wide, plain frieze.

The west gable wall of the main house is three bays wide. Single 6/6 windows flank paired 4/4 windows on the first and second floor; a pair of segmentally arched 4/4 windows is centered in the upper gable. Two small cellar ventilation openings that pierce the foundation are fitted with vertical iron bars at the exterior face and window sash at the interior face. The rendered stone foundation, six-course brickwork, and bracketed cornice match the front facade.

The east third of the rear or north facade is almost entirely concealed by the rear wing. The fenestration on this facade is not completely

8. Significance

Survey No. ML-V-A-014

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1870-71

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Graham Mansion and associated outbuildings comprises one of the most complete and significant 19th century farm complexes in Western Maryland.

The main house was constructed in 1870-71 by Curtis M. Graham and was one of the largest and finest houses of the period in this region. It remains in almost pristine condition, with no significant alterations to the house. Virtually all of the original woodwork and most of the five Victorian mantels survive in place. Early cupboards, wall-paper, painted and grained woodwork and period hardware have all survived in nearly pristine condition. The large Victorian house incorporates two early wings, both of which retain original woodwork, mantels, and other decorative details. Details of particular interest include the unusual arched construction of the cellar walls, the evidence of painted and penciled brickwork, handsome original porches, and the concrete paving blocks that encircle the house. The latter are described in an 1882 newspaper article and are an unusually early dated survival of the use of concrete.

In addition to the main house and wings, there are five significant 19th century farm buildings. These include an extremely fine double pen log bank barn, a large brick work building, a meat house/bank house, a dairy/shop, and a brick building that has been converted into a garage. The log barn and the meat house are particularly worthy of more detailed recording.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. ML-V-A-014

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, MD

"A Model Farm." Frostburg Mining Journal, No. 35 (May 13, 1882).
"The Graham Mansion." Journal of the Alleghenies: Vol. V (1968).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Orlando Ridout Vorganization Maryland Historical Trust date October 26, 1982street & number Shaw House, 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

Field Notebooks MD-5, MD-6; Recorded Sept. 16, 1982; Sept. 29, 1982.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

7.1 Description (Cont'd.)

symmetrical. The rear door is offset to right (west) of center on the first floor, flanked by a paired 4/4 window to the left, a single 4/4 to the right and a single 6/6 window in the west bay. The door is a six-panel Victorian door with paneled soffit and jambs and no transom or sidelights. There are five 6/6 windows on the second floor, a segmentally arched double 4/4 centered in the upper gable, and three barred cellar ventilation openings. The foundation brickwork and cornice match the front facade.

The two story east wing conceals the north portion of the east gable wall of the main house. Openings in this wall include a single four-panel door with four-light transom on the first floor, one 6/6 window in the south bay of the second story, and a pair of segmentally arched 4/4 windows centered in the upper gable. The stone foundation on this facade is only one course high and is not rendered; the brickwork and cornice match the front facade.

The east wing clearly predates the main house. The brickwork, windows and interior trim all date to circa 1820-40 and the larger 1871 house incorporates the west wall of the wing into the east wall of the main house, leaving a clearly visible seam where the second story eave of the wing joins the main house on the north facade.

The south wall of the wing is the principal facade of this early structure. It is constructed of carefully laid Flemish bond brick with numerous randomly placed glazed headers above a fieldstone foundation. There are two 9/6 windows with splayed brick jack arches on the first story and two 6/6 windows without jack arches on the second story. The eaves were rebuilt in 1871 and now consist of a plain box cornice supported by scrolled Victorian brackets matching the main house. The top six-courses of brickwork have been painted to imitate the plain frieze on the main house.

The only openings on the east gable wall of the wing are a pair of four-light windows in the upper gable. The brickwork is laid in five-course bond; the cornice returns at the corners and is carried up the gable eaves with the same brackets and painted frieze found on the south wall.

The rear or north wall is set flush with the rear facade of the later 1871 house. There are two 9/6 windows on the first floor and two 6/6 windows on the second floor. The brickwork is laid in four- to six-course bond; the cornice matches the east and south facade. This early structure remains its original size, as determined by the queen closers found at both ends of the north wall.

The rear or north wing is also of brick construction and was constructed in two distinct sections. The earliest section is $1\frac{1}{2}$ stories high on a full cellar. It is three bays long and one room deep with a pitched gable roof oriented on a north-south axis, perpendicular to the main house. A single flush brick chimney is centered on what was the north gable wall. This

7.2 Description (Cont'd.)

building rests on a full stone cellar foundation and is set into the side of the hill so that the cellar opens to the west and the first floor to the east, both at grade level. The foundation is rough fieldstone; the brickwork is random common bond. On the east facade, there is a door to left of center on the first floor flanked by single 6/6 windows on either side. A pitched roof 6/6 dormer window is offset to left of center on the second story. On the west wall, there are two 6/6 windows on the first story. A large cellar door to the south and a window opening to the north pierce the cellar foundation. The north window on the first floor has rebuilt jambs and lacks the splayed jack arch, so it is presumably inserted. The original north gable wall of this wing remains visible from the interior of the later north addition. There were two 6/6 windows on the first story and two 6/3 windows in the upper gable. One first story window has been blocked and converted to a cupboard, the other was enlarged for an interior door. The second story windows remain intact, including sash and trim.

The brick walls and stone foundation of this early wing do not key into either the early east wing or the 1871 house. This wing appears architecturally to post-date the early two story east wing and to predate the 1871 mansion. The most logical explanation for the sequence evidence is that the 1871 mansion rests on the site of an earlier house that predated either of the wings. No concrete evidence can be found to support this theory, however.

The north wing was later enlarged to the north, presumably in 1871, by the addition of one additional room on each floor. This addition is three bays long and the same height and width as the earlier wing.

On the east wall, there is a 6/6 window in the center bay flanked by a single door to north and south. A 6/6 pitched roof dormer is offset to left of center on the roof. The brickwork is random common bond with splayed jack arches over the openings. The roof of the entire wing on the east side projects out approximately two feet to form a protective pent along this facade.

On the north gable wall of the enlarged wing, there are two small 2/2 windows on the first story and two 6/3 windows on the second story. The throat of a bake oven is centered on the first story and the outline of a pitched gable roof clearly defines the location of a small structure that sheltered the missing oven. A flush brick chimney is centered on this gable; the eaves oversail and are boxed in with returns at the corners.

On the west wall of the wing there are two 6/6 windows on the first story, a door to the south, and a barred 6/6 window to the north in the cellar. This facade is constructed of a low stone foundation at grade level with five- to six-course bond brick above. A two-course belt course is carried across the wall at first floor level and the brickwork below this

7.3 Description (Cont'd.)

belt course was rendered with stucco. The eaves are boxed in and left plain.

Evidence survives on all three sides of the enlarged wing of painted red brick with white stenciled mortar joints.

The interior of the main house consists of a T-plan hall formed by a broad stair and entrance hall across the east gable end and a secondary hall bisecting the center of the house longitudinally to the west of the stair hall. There are three rooms and a secondary entrance passage to the south of the longitudinal hall and two rooms, a pantry, and a secondary stair passage to the north.

The principal stair is located in the entrance hall and rises against the east gable wall to a landing at the north end of the hall, then turns 180 degrees and continues up to the second floor. It is an open-string stair with a massive turned walnut newel, molded walnut rail and turned balusters. Scrolled stair brackets are applied to the stair ends.

An arched opening in the west wall of the stair hall opens into the longitudinal hall. This opening is trimmed with a molded hood piece and plain architrave trim framed with a heavy, molded backband.

The ceilings throughout the first floor of the main house are eleven feet high. All of the original baseboard and architrave trim survives, as well as all of the interior and exterior doors, most of the original hardware, and four of the five mantels. Two of the mantels are marbleized slate, the others are wood with a painted and grained finish. All of the interior trim, doors, and cupboards are painted and grained as well. The standard architrave trim consists of a plain fascia with bold flattened ogee backband, crossetted corners, and a hood-mold above all openings. The interior four-panel doors have Victorian ogee panel molds and are painted and grained. Of particular interest on the first floor are a series of cupboards in several of the rooms. These are of a variety of styles, including one four-door cupboard with flattened ogee panel molds and cove/astragal backband trim. This cupboard includes both shelves and pigeonholes, some of which are marked "Letters for the Year.....", with 1866 the earliest year represented and 1884 the latest year. Also of interest is the pantry, which is five feet wide and 12½ feet deep. Built-in shelves and drawers line one entire wall.

The secondary stair is located near the center of the north side of the longitudinal hall. This stair is a scaled down version of the main stair in the entrance hall. A four-panel Victorian door under the landing opens onto an interior stair to the cellar.

The first floor plan is essentially repeated on the second

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7.4 Description (Cont'd.)

floor, with three large chambers on the south side of the longitudinal hall and one large chamber, two small chambers, and the secondary stair to the north of the hall. The south end of the main stair hall is partitioned to form an unheated chamber. The ceilings on the second floor are 10½ feet high. All of the original baseboard and architrave trim survives, as well as all of the interior doors and four of the five mantels. There are two marbleized slate mantels, one painted and grained wood mantel, and one relatively plain wood mantel shelf. Cast iron inserts survive for the two slate mantels. All of the woodwork and interior doors are painted and grained.

Where one original mantel has been removed in the northwest room on the second floor, the name of a workman has been exposed to view. Penciled on the bare plaster behind the missing mantel is the inscription "Alfred E. Smenner, Cumberland, Md. Feb. 25, 1871."

The third story consists of one large room extending the full length of the house. The knee walls and ceiling are plastered but the room is otherwise left plain. Light is provided by the paired windows in the cross gables and the east and west gable walls.

The early two story brick wing is joined to the east gable wall of the main house and is connected via a single door on each floor that opens off the east wall of the main stair hall.

There is one room on each floor of this wing. On the first floor, an interior chimney is centered on the west wall of the wing, flanked by the door to the hall on the right and by a four-door cupboard on the left. This door and cupboard are not in their original locations. Seams in the plastered walls of the two alcoves clearly show that the door was originally to the left and the cupboard to the right of the fireplace and that they were reversed in 1871 to accommodate the placement of the stair in the new house.

The fireplace has been altered in the 20th century but the early mantel survives. It is a board surrounded with reeded astragal profile pilasters framing the opening below a plain frieze, reeded sideblocks and a molded shelf. The molding profiles include both Federal and Greek Revival components suggesting a date of circa 1830. The four-door cupboard to the left has flat recessed paneled doors and is framed with reeded architrave trim that matches the mantel pilasters. This same trim is used as the window architrave and the fascia of a two-piece chairrail. The door to the left of the fireplace is a simple six-panel door set in a paneled opening with tight, Greek ogee/astragal panel molds. This frame is clearly reused from the original door location to the left of the fireplace and is clear evidence of an earlier house on the same site as the 1871 mansion. The walls and ceiling of the first floor rooms are plastered

7.5 Description (Cont'd.)

The second story of the wing consists of a single room with a small fireplace on the west gable wall. The fireplace is framed with a board surround with a bold cyma reversa/astragal backband framing the opening and a simple Greek ogee molded shelf. To the left of the fireplace is a large built-in cupboard with a single six-panel door. To the right of the fireplace, a six-panel door opens onto the stair landing in the main hall. This door opening is framed with paneled soffit and jambs matching the first floor opening. There is no evidence that this door location is not original. Early trim in the second floor chamber includes beaded baseboard, a two-piece chair-rail with beaded fascia and astragal nosing and molded window frames consisting of a rabbeted astragal backband against a beaded frame.

The only access to the attic is through a trap door in the east end of the second floor ceiling. The attic is floored but not plastered. The roof is framed with 4 to 7 inch diameter poles joined and pegged at the ridge. A one by four inch wind brace has been let into the top face of the rafters at the east end of the north roof slope.

A door at the north end of the main stair hall of the 1871 house opens into the north wing which was constructed in two periods. The early section, which predates the 1871 house, consists of two rooms on each floor. The partition between the two rooms is constructed of plain vertical boards now covered with wall paper. It is not clear if this is an original partition. A blocked fireplace is offset to right of center on the north wall of the north room flanked by an original gable window opening to the left and a door to the right. The window opening has been converted into a two-door cupboard; the door is an enlarged window opening that now opens into the later section of the wing, which was added circa 1871. Early trim in these two rooms includes beaded baseboard and architrave trim and a simple two-piece chairrail. The fireplace is framed with a board surround with flattened ogee backband framing the opening below a replaced shelf and original cove/astragal molding.

The second floor of the wing is also divided into two rooms by a stud and plaster partition. Original 6/3 windows survive in the north gable wall of the north room, but now open into the later section of the wing. The walls and ceilings are plastered with machine sawn lathing. The early plain beaded trim and batten door have survived.

The later section of the wing originally consisted of a single room on each floor. The first floor room has been altered and partitioned and the fireplace has been blocked. The opening for an original oven survives in the north gable wall, still sealed with an iron door and latch. An enclosed winder stair rises against the south wall to the loft room, which is plastered and finished with plain trim. Numerous iron hooks are secured to the collar beams and hang below the plaster ceiling. These were evidently used for some type of storage.

7.6 Description (Cont'd.)

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A full cellar extends under the main house. A series of piers and brick relieving arches extend under the north wall of the first floor longitudinal hall and the west wall of the main entrance hall. A small storeroom has been partitioned off on the south side of the cellar.

There is no cellar or crawl space under the early east wing, but a full cellar extends under both sections of the north wing. The cellar under the earlier portion of the wing consists of a single room with a blocked fireplace on the north wall and an inserted plaster ceiling applied to machine lathing. A large batten door opens out at grade level on the west wall. This door and a smaller batten door that opens into the later north section are carefully constructed and hang on wrought iron strap hinges. They are both fitted with hand crafted sliding wood latches. The heavy, hewn ceiling joists are visible through holes in the ceiling. The floor is brick paved, but only remains visible in a few places.

The cellar under the later north addition to the wing also consists of a single room, with no evidence of a blocked fireplace in the chimney base on the north wall. The walls are plastered; the joist ceiling is left open, exposing circular sawn joists with diagonal bridging in between. The floor is paved with brick in a herringbone pattern. The window and door openings in the west wall are framed with the same cove/astragal backband trim found in the outbuildings.

Meat House/Bank House

Immediately to the east of the north wing is a small brick outbuilding measuring 10 feet wide and 21 feet long. It is set into the hillside on a north-south axis, parallel to the kitchen wing of the house. The main floor opens out at grade level onto the kitchen yard, while the cellar opens at grade lower down the slope. It is entirely of brick construction laid in five-course bond. The principal entrance is centered in the south (uphill) gable wall; with a small ventilation opening centered in the upper gable. On the east facade wall, there is a door offset to right of center, flanked by a 6/6 window to the left and a low, rectangular two light opening to the right. There are two cellar windows at grade level. The door and window openings have splayed brick jack arch lintels; the rectangular two light vent has a soldier course lintel. The door and the 6/6 window are set in beaded frames; the door sill is stone. Both first floor window openings are fitted with vertical iron bars; the 6/6 window can also be secured with paneled shutters.

On the north gable wall, there is a single 9-light window with splayed jack arch lintel and early concrete sill in the center of the cellar level, a low rectangular ventilation opening centered on the principal floor, and a small ventilation

7.7 Description (Cont'd.)

opening centered in the upper gable. The cellar window is set in a beaded frame and is fitted with paneled shutters. The rectangular ventilation opening on the main floor is barrred with vertical iron rods and can be shuttered from inside.

On the west facade, there is a door in the north bay and a nine-light window in the south bay of the cellar level, and a rectangular ventilation opening in the north bay and a 6/6 in the south bay of the principal floor. Both of these openings are fitted with vertical iron bars and the 6/6 and nine-light windows are fitted with paneled shutters.

The cellar of this building consists of a single room with dirt floor, plastered brick walls, and plastered ceiling. Where the ceiling plaster has fallen, it is possible to see 7x8 inch hewn joists laid on 18 inch centers. The north half of the first floor is constructed of brick paving laid on circular sawn floor boards, while the south bay has been firred up and laid with narrow circular sawn flooring. It is not clear whether this is an original feature or has been rebuilt. The windows are trimmed with cove/astragal backband trim. A number of iron hooks are driven into the ceiling joists and hang below the plastered ceiling.

The principal floor level is divided into two separate rooms. The south room is at present used as a workshop and storeroom. It has a narrow plank floor and plastered walls and ceiling. Two rows of iron hooks are embedded in the ceiling. The windows are trimmed with cove/astragal trim. The north room has a brick paved floor, plastered walls and ceiling. Six rows of seven iron hooks protrude from the ceiling. A stove chimney is centered on the interior partition wall, which is constructed of brick and plastered.

Brick Outbuilding/Garage

Immediately to the east of the meat house is a larger one story brick building that measures 20½ feet wide and 30 feet long. The rebuilt, pitched gable roof is oriented on the north-south axis. The east wall has been rebuilt with concrete block and the south wall has been opened up to serve as a garage door. The building is constructed of five-course band brick on a fieldstone foundation, with splayed brick jack arches above the original window openings. There are two 6/6 windows on the west facade wall and an arched 6/6 window in the center of the north gable. A Gothic arched recess is centered in the upper gable of the north wall. Evidence survives of the painted and penciled finish where the brick walls have been protected from the weather.

Brick Work Building

Across the driveway to the east of the garage is a larger 1½ story brick building constructed perpendicular to the steep hillside. The rectangular building is thus oriented east-west

7.8 Description (Cont'd.)

with the principal entrance centered in the grade level of the west gable wall. This entrance consists of a double batten door flanked by single 6/6 windows fitted with vertical iron bars. There are two barred 6/6 windows on the upper floor and a pair of segmentally arched 4/4 windows in the upper gable. The brickwork is laid in five-course bond above a fieldstone foundation. The 6/6 window openings have dressed stone sills and lintels and dressed stone steps lead up to the ground floor entrance.

Because of the steep slope of the hillside, access is possible to the upper story using a door with stone steps on the south facade. This door is flanked by 6/6 windows on each side. A single 6/6 window is located at the west end of the lower, ground level story. The brickwork is laid in five-course bond with a corbeled two-course brick cornice; the openings have dressed stone lintels.

On the east gable wall, there are two casement windows lacking sash on the principal floor and a pair of segmentally arched 4/4 windows in the upper gable. The brickwork is laid in five-course bond; the openings have dressed stone lintels and wood sills. A flush brick chimney is centered on this gable wall.

The only openings on the north facade are a single 6/6 window at the west end of the ground floor and two 6/6 windows on the principal story. The brickwork, cornice and stone trim match the south facade.

The interior of the ground floor consists of a small vestibule-like room at the west end and a single large room to the east, now used for storage of lumber. Closely set hewn ceiling joists survive at the west end of the building but the joists and flooring have been replaced to the east, and an early stair on the south wall has been removed. Cove/astragal window trim matches trim found in the north wing of the main house and in the meat house.

The principal floor is partitioned to form a small square room to the northwest and a large L-shaped room to the south and east. These two rooms were recently used as a poultry house, but the heavy floor framing suggests it was originally used for a work room and/or storage space.

A steep ladder/stair in the southeast corner leads up to a floored but unfinished loft. The roof framing is typical of the latter half of the 19th century and may date to the reconstruction of the principal floor.

The original use of this building is not clear. The large rooms and heavy floor framing suggest a work building. It may

7.9 Description (Cont'd.)

be the carpenter shop mentioned in an 1882 news article, but the lack of large door openings on the principal floor makes this questionable. Perhaps the two floors were used for different purposes.

Brick Dairy/Workshop

To the southwest of the front facade of the main house is a one-story brick building that measures 16 by 22 feet. It is oriented on an east-west axis with a pitched gable roof, and is set into a moderate slope down to the west.

On the south facade, a door in the east bay has been blocked and replaced with a 6/3 window. A second 6/3 window is located to the west, in an original opening. The brickwork is laid in four- to five-course bond on a fieldstone foundation. The window sash is set in beaded frames below wood lintels. The plain box cornice appears to be rebuilt; the roof is now covered with roll tarpaper.

The west gable wall faces down the hillside. There is an original small opening in the stone foundation at grade level and a cut-in 6/6 window in the center of the wall directly above. The brickwork is four-course bond; a single header brick has been omitted in the upper gable to provide ventilation to the loft. The gable eaves oversail and are boxed in.

A door has been cut in at the east end of the north facade. The brickwork and boxed cornice match the south facade.

On the east gable wall, there is a 6/6 window in the center of the first story and a small door in the upper gable that provides the only access to the loft. The 6/6 window is set in a beaded frame surmounted by a dressed stone lintel. The brickwork matches the south facade and shows evidence of a painted and penciled finish where protected by the eaves.

The interior consists of a single room with a plank floor, plastered walls and an exposed joist ceiling. There is evidently no interior access to the loft.

Barn

To the southwest of the house is a large barn used for cattle, hay storage and equipment storage. The core of the building is an early double pen log bank barn with a full stone cellar. This building was not recorded in detail but is clearly one of the largest and most completely preserved early barns in this area. Significant features include the evidence of the original ground floor stall plan, carefully crafted ladders to the loft areas, and a harness room still fully equipped with horse collars, harnesses and similar equipment.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0102095504
AL-V-A-014

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Graham's Mansion

AND/OR COMMON

Layman's Farm ; Prichard's Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

One half mile East of Rt. 36 from intersection in Wright's Crossing

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

Building not in use

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Prichard Realty Co. Bob & Bill Prichard

Telephone #: 689-6939
689-6246

STREET & NUMBER

7 West College Avenue, & 9 West College Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Frostburg

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21532

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-V-A-014

CONDITION☐ EXCELLENT☒ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old Graham Mansion is located off Rt. 36, one half mile East from the intersection with Cherry Lane and Rt. 36 in Wright's Crossing, Allegany County.

The mansion is a Victorian Revival structure which consists of a two and one half story, six bay wide, rectangular principal facade. Two wings abut the main block; a square two story block on the east side and a one story rectangular block on the rear, North side. The building is of American Common Bond brick construction made with high temperature kiln, pressed brick, twenty two inches thick and has plain wall features. The structure is supported by a high, dressed stone foundation which is surfaced by cement on the front side, and features a beveled water table. The roof of the principal facade is gabled on the ends and features a cross-gable dormer on both the front and rear sides of the house. The roof is covered with what appears to be the original slate materials and the cornices of the roof exhibit soffit and frieze, with scroll brackets. Windows in the house feature double hung wooden sash frames with six-over-six lights, interior shutters and brick pediments on the flat arches. Windows in the gables of the building are side by side, double hung gothic sash frames with four-over-four lights. Two main entrances are found on the front Southeast face of the main block, and they include a transom, transom lights, and side lights, and both entrances are covered by hoods supported by wooden columns. Five corbeled brick chimneys are found on the structure, one on the flush east end, and the others are interior to the roof. The mansion originally had a cast iron fountain on the front center of the lawn and the entrances were paved with marble. Several out buildings are located around the house and these served as carpenter shop, ice house, chicken coop, smoke house, etc.

The interior of the structure includes twenty two rooms, with fifteen foot high ceilings. Long hallways are found extending the width of the structure and black marble fireplaces adorn several rooms. Large brick arches support the structure in the basement, and the entire structure is one of the most elegant farm houses in the state.

The mansion is structurally very sound and is in very near original appearance, other than the fountain.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-V-A-014

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD**

☐ PREHISTORIC
☐ 1400-1499
☐ 1500-1599
☐ 1600-1699
☐ 1700-1799
☒ 1800-1899
☐ 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
☒ AGRICULTURE
☒ ARCHITECTURE
☐ ART
☐ COMMERCE
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING
☐ CONSERVATION
☐ ECONOMICS
☐ EDUCATION
☐ ENGINEERING
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
☐ INDUSTRY
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
☐ LAW
☐ LITERATURE
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSIC
☐ PHILOSOPHY
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION
☐ SCIENCE
☐ SCULPTURE
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ THEATER
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1871

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Graham Mansion is a Victorian Revival structure that was built in 1871 by Curtin M. Graham. The farm was very prosperous in the early days of operation. The total amount of land was originally three hundred and forty acres and upon this property were orchards, grazing fields, and large plots for vegetable gardening. The farm house's architecture itself is uncommon for the Western Maryland area. The brick arched supports in the basement and the over-all more elegant and fashionable design give evidence to this statement. The property is currently owned by the Frichard family of Frostburg. Only small grazing herds of cattle are using the once prosperous farm, and the house is unoccupied. The property is in good condition and the possibility for total restoration is excellent. The presence of such a site certainly enhances the architectural heritage of Allegany County.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

ALV-A-04

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland
"A Model Farm", Frostburg Mining Journal; May 13, 1882 No. 35
"The Graham Mansion", Journal of The Alleghenies; Vol. V 1968

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 181 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Old Graham's Mansion; Wright's Crossing near Frostburg

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John E. Nelson, Program Coordinator of All. Co. Historic Sites

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

5/21/76

STREET & NUMBER

10 Park Lane

TELEPHONE

689-8486

CITY OR TOWN

Frostburg

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

ALV-A-04

Layman's Farm or Grahams Farm, Portion of Wright's Farm
1/2 Mile East of Rt. 36 at Intersection in Wright's Crossing

HISTORICAL CHAIN OF TITLE

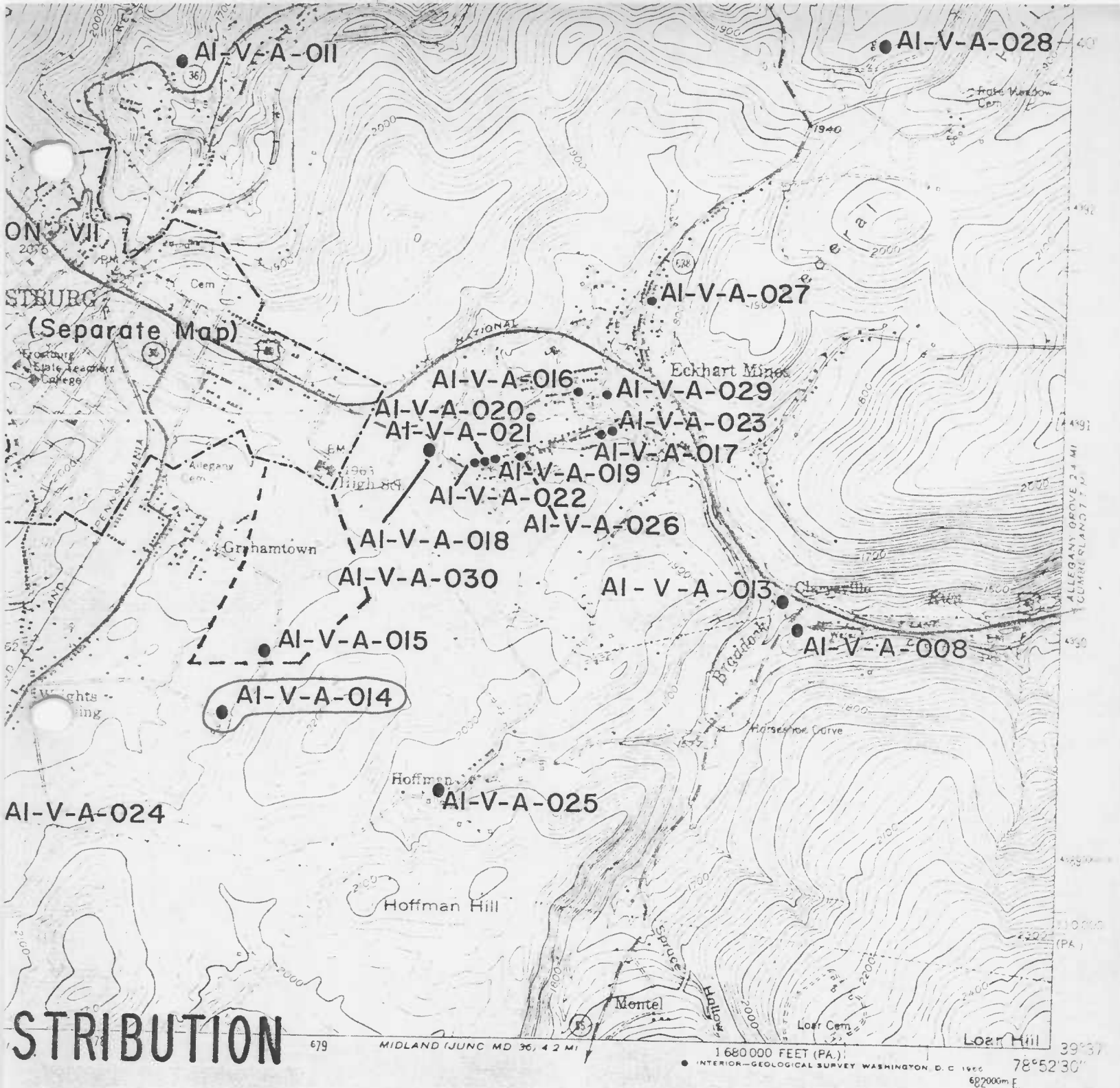
Allegany County - Deed - Liber 361, Folio 225
grantee: The Prichard Realty Company - Robert and William Prichard
grantor: John N. Layman Estate - William Geppert and William Gunter - Trustees
July 29, 1963
Acreage: 181
Consideration: \$50,000

Liber 88, Folio 276
grantee: John N. Layman
grantor: John Wright and Thomas Frost executors of Sarah Wright
May 1, 1901
Consideration: \$15,322.80

Allegany County Will - Liber H, Folio 90
grantee: Sarah Wright
grantor:
April 14, 1900

Allegany County Deed
grantee: Sarah Wright, Susan & Curtin M. Graham
grantor: Sarah & John Wright

Originally part of the Wright Family's property holdings



STRIIBUTION

1 MILE
0 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER

● = SITE LOCATION

AI-V-A-014

Graham's Mansion
Wright's Crossing

USGS- Frostburg Quad

1:24,000

1949

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route State Route

FROSTBURG, MD.-PA.
NW/4 FROSTBURG 15 QUADRANGLE
N3937.5-W7852.5/7.5

1949

AMS 5263 III NW-SERIES V835

STANDARDS
TON, D. C. 20242
AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



AL-V-A-014

GRAHAM MANSION

FIGURE 44.



Graham's Mansion

A1-U-A-014

Wright's Crossing

John E. Nelson

5/20/76

Northwest



Graham's Mansion

A1-V-A-014

Wright's Crossing

John E. Nelson

5/20/76

East



Graham's Mansion

A1-V-A-014

Wright's Crossing

John E. Nelson

5/20/76

South



Graham's Mansion · Out-buildings

A1-U-A-014

Wright's Crossing

John E. Nelson

5/20/76

South east



Graham's Mansion - Out-building

A1-V-A-014

Wright's Crossing

John E. Nelson

5/20/76

Northwest



AL-V-A-014

Graham Mansion

Allegany Co., MD

Orlando Ridout 9/82

Front (south) Facade; Main House



AL-V-A-014

Graham Mansion

Allegany Co., MD

Orlando Ridout 9/82

South Facade (c. 1830 orig.)



AL-V-A-014

Graham Mansion

Allegany Co., MD

Orlando Ridout 9/82

Brick Outbldg.; SW



AL-V-A-014

Graham Mansion; Outbuilding
Frostburg, Vic.

Orlando Ridout V 9/82

View from Southeast



AL-V-A-014

Graham Mansion

Allegany Co., MD

Orlando Ridout 9/82

Log & Stone Bank Barn; NE